

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6046

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7774

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK POSITION ON CYPRUS

1. ROME-BASED VOA CORRESPONDENT IS CURRENTLY IN ATHENS AND AT HIS REQUEST RECEIVED BACKGROUND BRIEFING FROM GREEK MFA (METAXAS, HEAD OF CYPRUS/TURKEY DIRECTORATE). ACCORDING TO VOA CORRESPONDENT METAXAS SAID FOR GOG "PRIME INDISPENSABLE CONDITION" FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AMONG PARTIES RE CYPRUS PROBLEM WAS RETURN OF GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES TO THEIR HOMES. HE DESCRIBED WITHDRAWAL OF TURKISH FORCES AND REDUCTION OF TURKISH HELD AREAS AS "SECONDARY." METAXAS WENT ON TO SAY THAT FROM GREEK POINT OF VIEW PRESENT SITUATION WAS "WORST POSSIBLE ONE" BECAUSE IF SITUATION REMAINED AS IT WAS FOR PROLONGED PERIOD, GOG FEARED THAT, IN VIEW OF TURKISH MILITARY SUPERIORITY, EVENTUAL OUTCOME WOULD BE "HALF CONCEALED ENOSIS" WITH GREEK CYPRIOT PORTION OF ISLAND ULTIMATELY BEING DIRECTLY LINKED TO GREECE AND TURKISH OCCUPIED PORTION TO TURKEY.

2. WHILE THESE COMMENTS BY METAXAS ADD NO NEW DIMENSIONS
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TO GREEK POSITION HIS EMPHASIS ON NEED TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE

HUMANITARIAN ISSUE INVOLVING THE REFUGEES SUGGESTSGOG APPRECIATES
AND ACCEPTS PRACTICAL FACT THAT PROGRESS TOWARD SOLUTION
OF OTHER OUTSTANDING ISSUES ON ISLAND WILL BE TIME-CONSUMING
AND WILL REQUIRE PATIENCE ON PART OF ALL CONCERNED.
KUBISCH

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NNN

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